

# Biographical Sketch

Thomas D. Layzell  
President

---

Dr. Thomas D. Layzell is President of the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education. Dr. Layzell served as Mississippi's Commissioner of Higher Education from 1995 to 2003. An Illinois native, he served as Chancellor of the Illinois Board of Governors of State Colleges and Universities from 1985 to 1995. From 1976-1984, Dr. Layzell served as Deputy Executive Director and Treasurer of the Board of Governors, and from 1984-1985 as Executive Director of the Board.

Dr. Layzell worked at Governors State University in University Park, Illinois, from 1969 to 1976, advancing to the position of Vice President for Administration. He also served as a staff member at the Illinois Board of Higher Education from 1966-1969.

Dr. Layzell earned a bachelor of arts at Millikin University in Decatur, Illinois and both a juris doctorate in law and a masters of arts in public administration from the University of Illinois in Urbana. He and his wife, Joan, are the parents of one son and three daughters.

Dr. Layzell has served as president of the State Higher Education Executive Officers, a member of the National Commission on Accountability in Higher Education, president of the National Association of System Heads, and a member of the Council of Presidents of the Association of Governing Boards.

March, 2006